

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. It is also an example of a lack of ethics and a disregard for the public interest.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Unfortunately, when large companies control the airwaves, the public receives the programming that builds the profits of corporations like Sinclair, instead of receiving information that is accurate, balanced and therefore good for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.